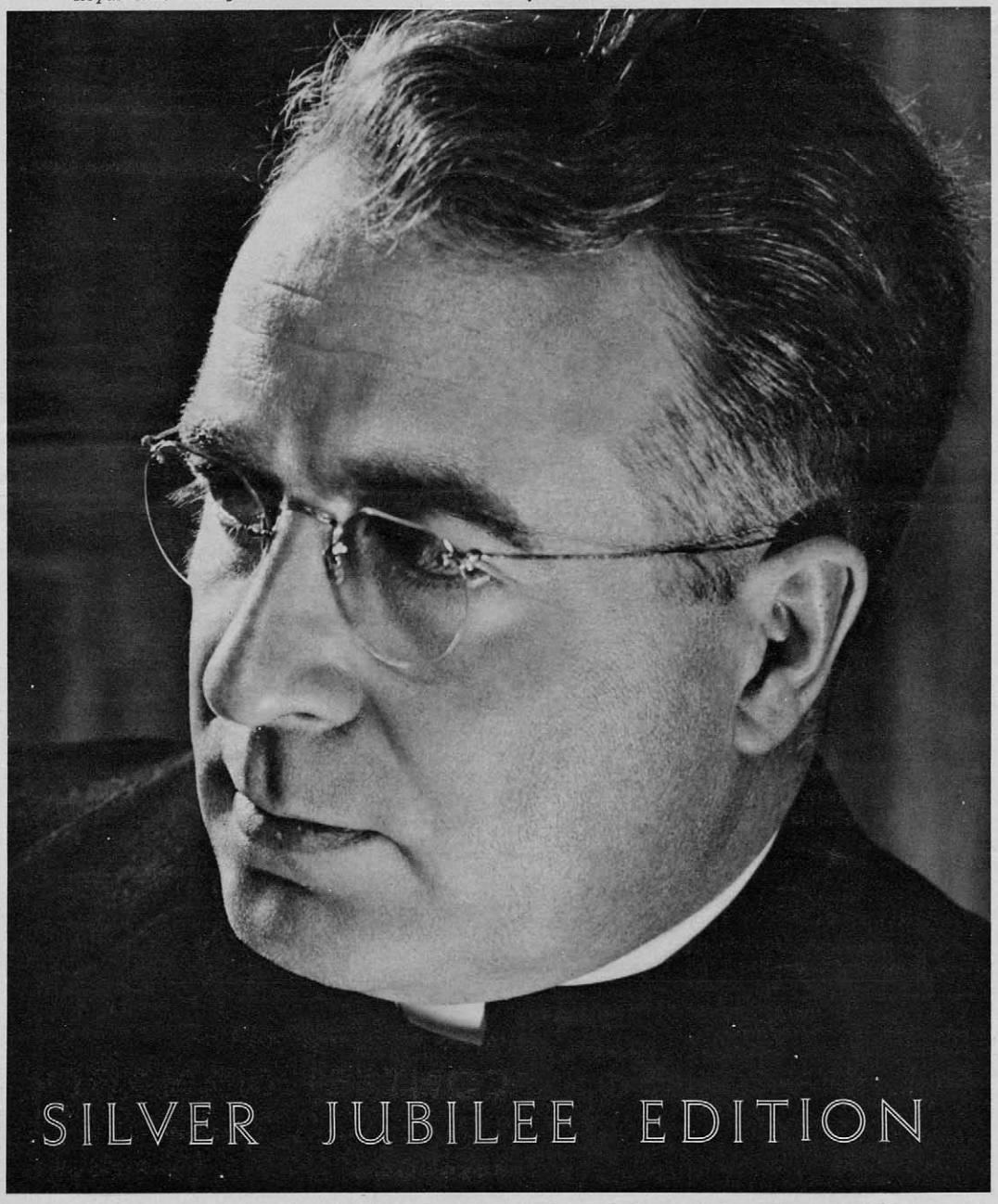
NATIONAL WEEKLY

Social Justice

Founded 1936 *by Father Coughlin*

Royal Oak, Michigan - June 30, 1941 - VOL. 7—No. 28 PART TWO Silver Jubilee Edition



A TRIBUTE TO FATHER COUGHLIN

WE, THE FRIENDS AND FOLLOWERS of Father Coughlin, congratulate him on his Silver Jubilee, commemorating 25 years of consecrated service as a Priest of Christ.

Inexpert words are blunt tools with which to engrave our tribute of respect, of gratitude, and love for our Friend, our Teacher, and our Pastor.

Merely to list his outstanding achievements is to write a record that needs no judgment of ours to evaluate it.

He has utilized the wonders of the Radio to propagate the Christian faith, so that he has become known throughout the world as "the Radio Priest."

He has popularized the Papal Encyclicals—notably "*Rerum Novarum*" of Pope Leo XIII and "*Quadragesimo Anno*" of Pius XI—taking them, as it were, down from their dusty academic shelves and applying their principles of Christian social justice to the problems of the nation.

Almost single-handedly and alone, his early warnings sought to stem the onward rush of Marxian Communism in our beloved United States.

He taught labor its rights and capital its duties.

He excoriated the heartless Usury which everywhere exploits the poor.

He exposed the modern money-changers for their wickedness in the temple of our national life.

He has built and paid for a $2-million Shrine to the Patroness of Christian missions, the Little Flower of Jesus.

He has ever been a mountain of granite against those who attack the Church of Christ.

He has made many powerful enemies, but these only serve to emphasize the good he has accomplished.

He has striven at all times to link up the scattered forces of the Mystical Body of Christ into a single battle line.

He has founded the national magazine, SOCIAL JUSTICE, with characteristic diligence to combat the errors of the day.

He has not hesitated to descend into the arena of public debate, when precious Christian principles or the souls of men were at stake, to further the Kingship of Christ on earth.

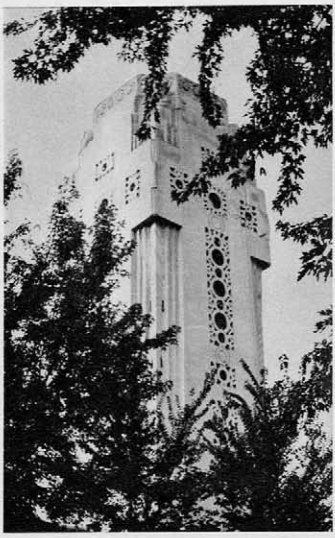
He has foretold the inevitable effects of uncorrected social errors.

These effects, now coming to pass—precisely as his warnings predicted them—are powerful vindication of the accuracy of his observation, the honesty of his information, and the soundness of his judgments.

Father Coughlin's work is far from finished.

We cannot here be so rash as to utter prophecy; but when these present days of world disorder—of war abroad and civil strife at home — fall into a pattern which shall disclose the exploiter from his victim; the blameworthy from the guiltless; the true friends of Christ from the enemies of Christ—we are certain that then the nation's millions, who have "cherished his words in our hearts," will once more welcome as our Leader, our Teacher and our Spiritual Shepherd, the Priest of the Radio and the pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower of Jesus.

Shrine of the Little Flower



If Father Coughlin could be persuaded to attempt an estimation of his own work — which, naturally, we cannot ask, since this special edition is as much of a surprise to him as it will be to the reader — he most probably would put first the 3,000 converts to the Faith which have rewarded his pulpit and radio preaching over the years.

Or, Father Coughlin might essay to evaluate in some measure the response to his preaching of the neglected social doctrines of the Church — the doctrines set forth specifically by Pope Leo XIII in "*Rerum Novarum*" and reiterated most emphatically by His Late Holiness Pius XI in "*Quadragesimo Anno*."

But, to the great newspaper reading public, and even no doubt to many of us, his friends and followers, he will always be the Priest of the Radio who built—and paid for — a $2-million church.

Indeed, it would be difficult to think of the famous Shrine of the Little Flower, out here in Royal Oak, Michigan, without thinking of its pastor and builder; just as it is difficult to think of Father Coughlin without associating him with St. Therese's basilica.

The little frame church, erected as a pioneer missionary outpost, in the very heart of "klan territory," was the first church in all the world to be named for the newly canonized Little Flower of Jesus.

The late Bishop Gallagher of Detroit, who put Father Coughlin on the radio and ordered him to preach the papal encyclicals, together with His Excellency Archbishop Joseph Schrembs of Cleveland, Ohio, were present at the canonization of St. Therese in Rome; and both prelates spoke at the dedication service of the Shrine of the Little Flower.

As a place of pilgrimage for devout clients of the Little Flower, and an attraction for curious thousands drawn by their admiration of the radio preacher, the original little church became widely known to millions. The quarters and dimes of these visitors, together with the memberships in the League of the Little Flower, built and paid for the magnificent Shrine that now rises on the site of its humble predecessor.

The Charity Tower with its massively sculptured Crucifixion scene, Father Coughlin's basement offices, and the Shrine Narthex preceded the completed edifice by several years. The big Shrine itself, already familiar to millions of visitors, is so packed with devotional symbolism that its briefest description fills an attractive Shrine souvenir booklet. This little volume, written by Father Albert Hutting, a former assistant at the Shrine, has been widely distributed and its successive editions are still in demand.

The problem of a church that would do justice to the scores of thousands already in love with their little Shrine, must have occupied the pastor and his architectural advisers for many months. Father Coughlin's first request for a Gothic edifice to accommodate 3,000 persons, called for a block-long structure costing upwards of $10-million. So that dream had to be abandoned for the even more practical Romanesque basilica, majestic in its very simplicity, seating more than 3,100 persons.

Summer Sundays often see as many as 5,000 tourists packed into its spacious auditorium.

With the destruction of the original little church, worshippers felt "lost" in the spacious interior of the new church, until the Narthex was converted into a Chapel of St. Therese with pews facing the beautiful white marble group of the Virgin and Child with Little Therese.

As we've said, the Shrine was built, and is maintained by memberships in the League of the Little Flower. The intentions of these members of the League—prayers for both the living and dead members — are remembered at each Mass celebrated at the altar of the Shrine and, through the kindness of the Latin Patriarch, at the Tomb of Christ in Jerusalem.

* * *

While the Shrine, dedicated to the Patroness of Christian missions, belongs in a sense to the whole world, it is also the parish church for us of Royal Oak. Its pews are filled five times each Sunday; and at Mass each day of the week many visitors are present.

A parish school was built a year ago and, this Summer, additional facilities are being added — including an auditorium, a cafeteria, and a grade school gymnasium.

A 22-acre property owned by the League at Woodward Avenue and Thirteen-Mile Road, a mile north of the Shrine, has been acquired by the Sisters of Charity, who are erecting a modern academy and high school for girls.

Toward all of these parish projects — not forgetting God's Poor Society which fed and clothed many hundreds in the early days of the depression — the League of the Little Flower has made generous contribution.

As long as the altar of the Shrine will stand a Perpetual Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated for the repose of the soul of Bishop Gallagher, the ardent champion of Von Ketteler and Leo and Pius, who introduced Father Coughlin to the radio as a Crusader for Christian social justice.

Boyhood and Home

Born October 25, 1891, of American parents residing in Hamilton, Ontario, Father Coughlin's boyhood and early school days were spent in his native city. Upon the foundation of a devoutly religious home life his Christian education was built. His parents, Thomas J. and Amelia (Mahoney) Coughlin, observed their Golden Wedding anniversary last year.

★ Choir boy (second from right) at old St. Mary's in his native Hamilton.

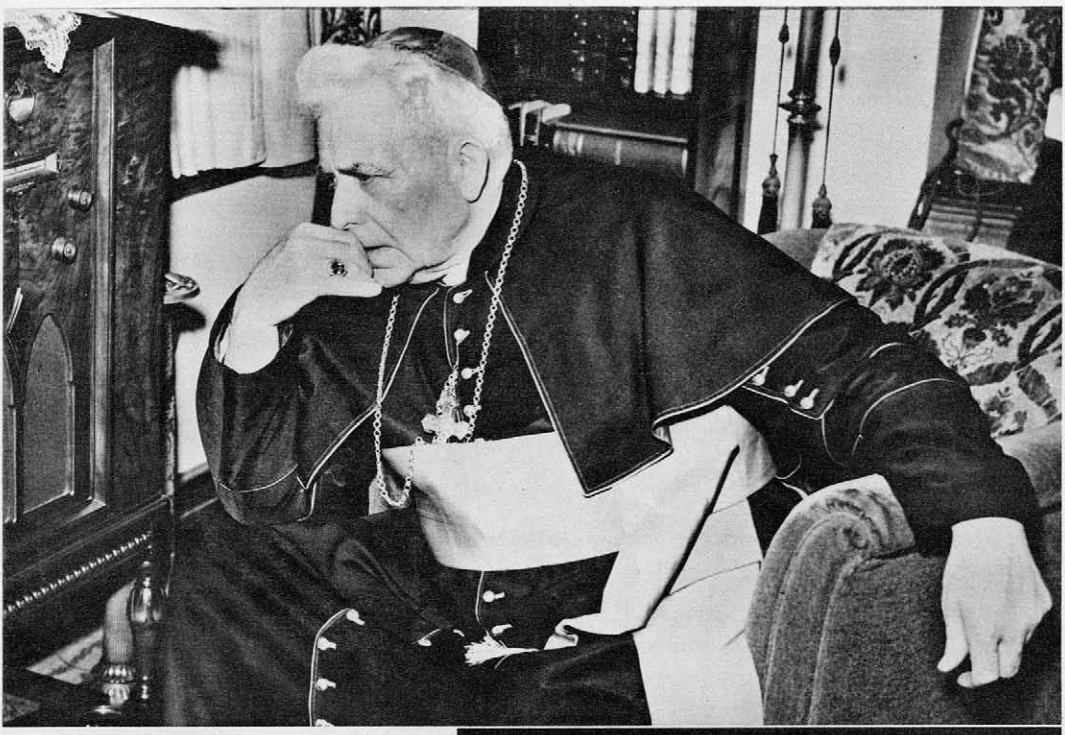
School Days

★ The young Basilian scholar and athlete (second from left, rear) popularly known as "Chuck" in student days at St. Michael's College and Toronto University.

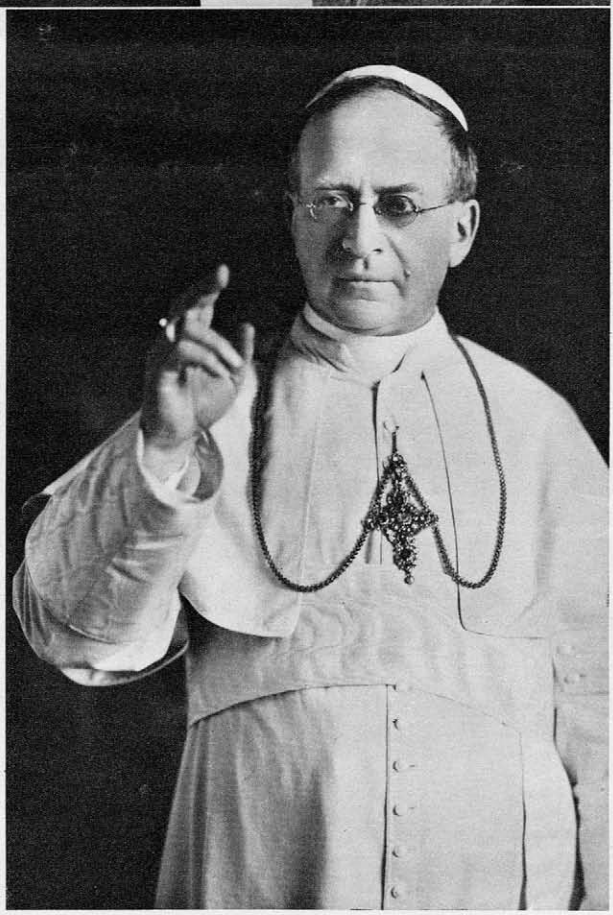
★ His Doctor of Laws degree was conferred upon Father Coughlin at Notre Dame University in 1933.

Original Shrine

First church in the world to be dedicated to St. Therese of the Little Flower, the original Shrine in Royal Oak, became an object of pilgrimage to devout clients of the Little Saint. Views of the Shrine and garden, and the original altar and sanctuary are shown here.



Pope Pius XI
Bishop Gallagher



BORN in the year that Pope Leo XIII gave to the world his famous encyclical "Rerum Novarum," On the Condition of Labor, Father Coughlin's life has been before all else devoted to preaching the neglected social doctrines of the Church enunciated by His Holiness.

Even before Pope Pius XI had commemorated the fortieth anniversary of this great document, the Right Rev. Michael James Gallagher, late Bishop of Detroit, had put young Father Coughlin on the air to preach Christian social justice.

"Let no Catholic worthy of the name seek to divorce Father Coughlin from the Catholic Church," said the Bishop in a radio address on Easter Sunday in 1935. "I fear no persecution that will result from any preaching of the principles of social justice."

The last and best photograph ever taken of the Social Justice Bishop was a candid camera shot of His Excellency listening to the Christmas Eve broadcast of the Holy Father, Pope Pius XI.

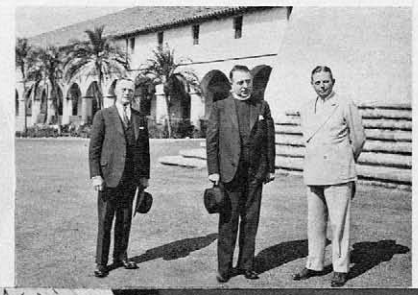
Public Appear

In 1936, more than 150,000 crusaders for Christian social justice packed a Chicago park to hear a single address by Father Coughlin. Wherever he spoke in public similar throngs heard him apply the principles of the papal encyclicals to the practical problems of the nation.

The many-sided activities of Father Cough beloved Priest of the Radio, won him large a of attentive listeners, who became firm fri faithful followers wherever he appeared.

Public Appearances
The national convention of the N.U.S.J., August 14-16, 1936, in Cleveland, Ohio, witnessed an unprecedented outpouring of earnest Americans sincere in their people's effort to put the 16 principles of Christian social justice into effect in America.
The many-sided activities of Father Coughlin, the beloved Priest of the Radio, won him large audiences of attentive listeners, who became firm friends and faithful followers wherever he appeared.
FATHER COUGHLIN
MASSACHUSETTS
WELCOME'S "YOU"
8th CONG. DISTRICT.

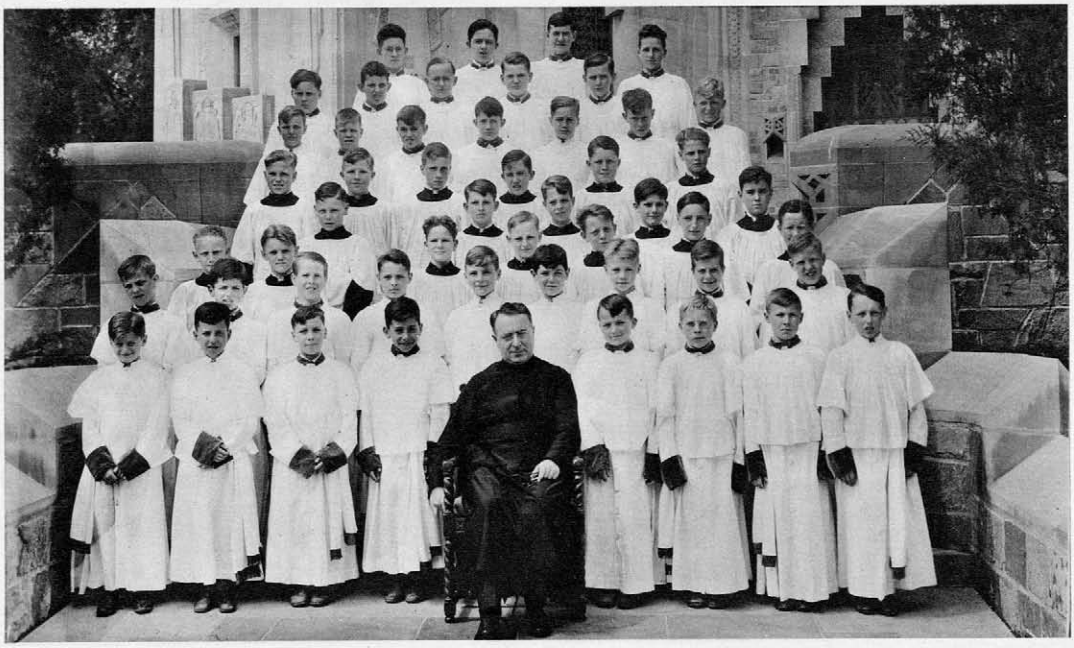
The Priest of the Radio



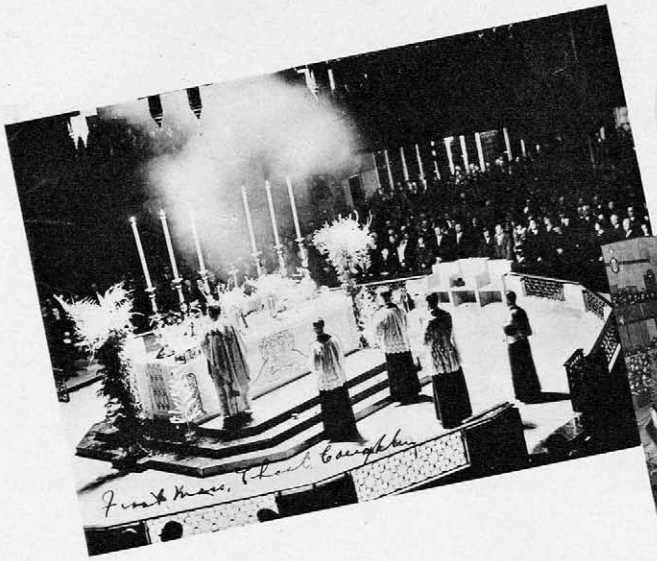
Through the interested assistance of "Dick" Richards, owner of Detroit's "Good Will" Radio Station, WJR, and the station's manager, Leo J. Fitzpatrick, an experimental broadcast by the young Royal Oak priest grew into a vast national radio forum. From one Sunday afternoon sermon which brought the priest five letters, the hook-up reached a peak of 68 radio stations in February of 1938, when it was estimated that Father Coughlin had spent 386 hours on the air.

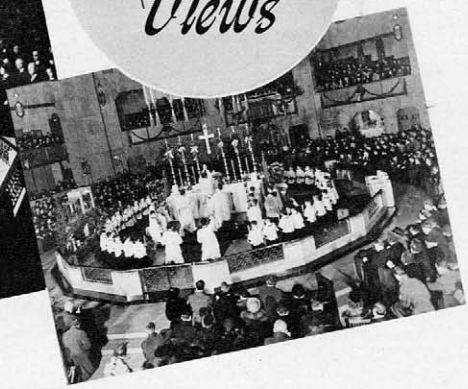
Children at the Service

Father Coughlin has always been the "children's pastor." The Children's Hour broadcasts in past years have been second only in popularity to the nationally broadcast Golden Hour itself. Shown here are the first communion class at the little Shrine; a more recent class; and a group of Father Coughlin's altar boys. On Hallowe'en, parish youngsters masquerade in the costume of their patron saint.

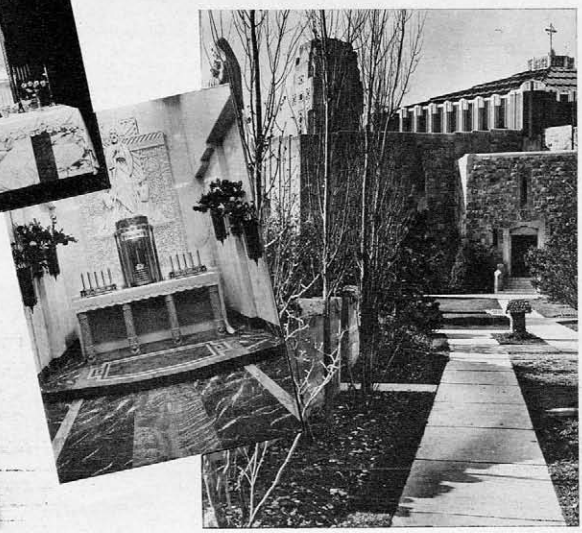


Shrine Views

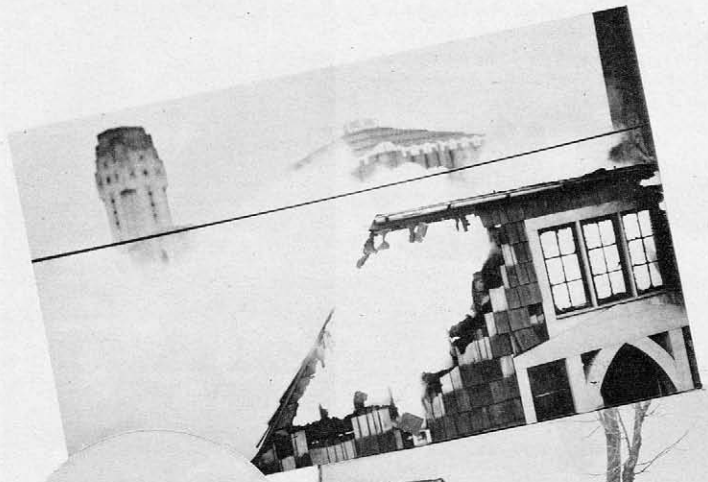


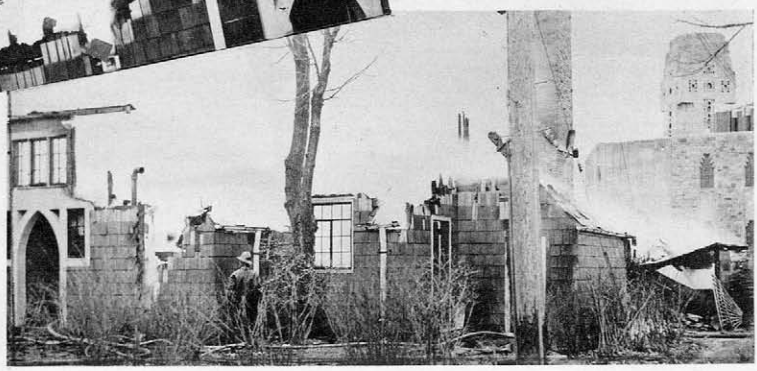


Familiar to millions of visitors over the years, are the Charity Crucifixion Tower and the massive stone basilica that rises on the spot where once the burning of a "klan cross" imperiled the newly erected little church. Its carven marble altars and devotional symbolism will become known to thousands more as they visit the Shrine for Father Coughlin's Jubilee Year.



Original Shrine Burns





Fanned by a north wind of gale proportions, angry flames rapidly consumed the original little shrine on the morning of St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1936. Fire departments of five cities were helpless to save the structure. Only the Saint's statue, one altar candlestick, and a few other pieces were rescued. These are preserved in the Reliquary building on the Shrine grounds.

Famous Radio Priest to the rest of the nation, to Royal Oak parishioners Father Coughlin is a beloved pastor and friend—simply "Pal's Boss." Old Pal, protector of the young mission priest in pioneer days, is namesake of the present-day mascot of the Rectory.

Sidelights

★ The parish, too, is still talking about the Children's Party in 1931, when 50,000 youngsters had a good time at Father's invitation and "ate all the ice cream in Detroit!"

★ On Thanksgiving Day, 1929, Father Coughlin unpacked a stone block cut from Calvary Hill, the gift to the Shrine of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem. It is revered as one of the many relics.

Social Justice Magazine

Social Justice
SOCIAL JUSTICE
CONGRESS GOES HOME:
Social Justice
FATHER COUGHLIN'S MESSAGE TO
Social Justice
C.I.O. THREATENS GENERAL STRIKE
Dies Warns of How Reds in Government Plot to 'Take Over'
President Declares War; Seizes Private Property

FOUNDED by Father Coughlin in 1936 — primarily as the organ of the National Union for Social Justice — the magazine SOCIAL JUSTICE has campaigned for the 16 principles of Christian justice for more than five years. In turn, the publication has been a tabloid newspaper, a "de luxe" magazine, and a national weekly of comment and opinion.

Two former offices occupied by the editorial staff, and a view of the present circulation and business office are here shown.

World peace with justice; an America free from Marxian Communism; and free, too, from the war-making of the international gold-mongers, is the magazine's pre-occupation at the moment. Informed Americans cannot afford to be without it.

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SOCIAL JUSTICE PUBLISHING CO.
Royal Oak, Michigan

MAY 15, 1891—Papal Encyclical "*Rerum Novarum*" issued by Pope Leo XIII.

OCT. 25, 1891—Father Chas. E. Coughlin born, Hamilton, Ont.

1911 — Degree in honor philosophy, St. Michael's College, Toronto; Doctor of Laws, Notre Dame University, 1933.

1916—Taught philosophy and English, St. Basil's College, Waco, Texas.

JUNE 29, 1916 — Ordained to Holy Priesthood, St. Basil's Church, Toronto.

1916-18—Teacher philosophy and English, Assumption College, Sandwich, Ont.; assistant pastor St. Agnes Church, Detroit.

FEB. 26, 1923—Incardinated into Diocese of Detroit by Bishop Gallagher; assistant St. Augustine's, Kalamazoo, 3 months; St. Leo's, Detroit, 18 months.

1925 — Pastor SS. Peter and Paul Parish, North Branch, Mich.

MAY 17, 1925—Canonization of St. Therese.

MAY, 1926 — Founder and pastor St. Therese Shrine, Royal Oak, Mich.

OCT. 17, 1926—Sunday, 2 p.m., first radio broadcast on WJR from altar of Little Flower Shrine; beginning nationally famous Golden Hour, Children's Hour and broadcasts to shut-ins.

JAN. 16, 1927—Radio mission, broadcast novenna to St. Therese. Radio listeners form League of the Little Flower in every State and many foreign countries.

1928—Charity Crucifixion Tower conceived and started.

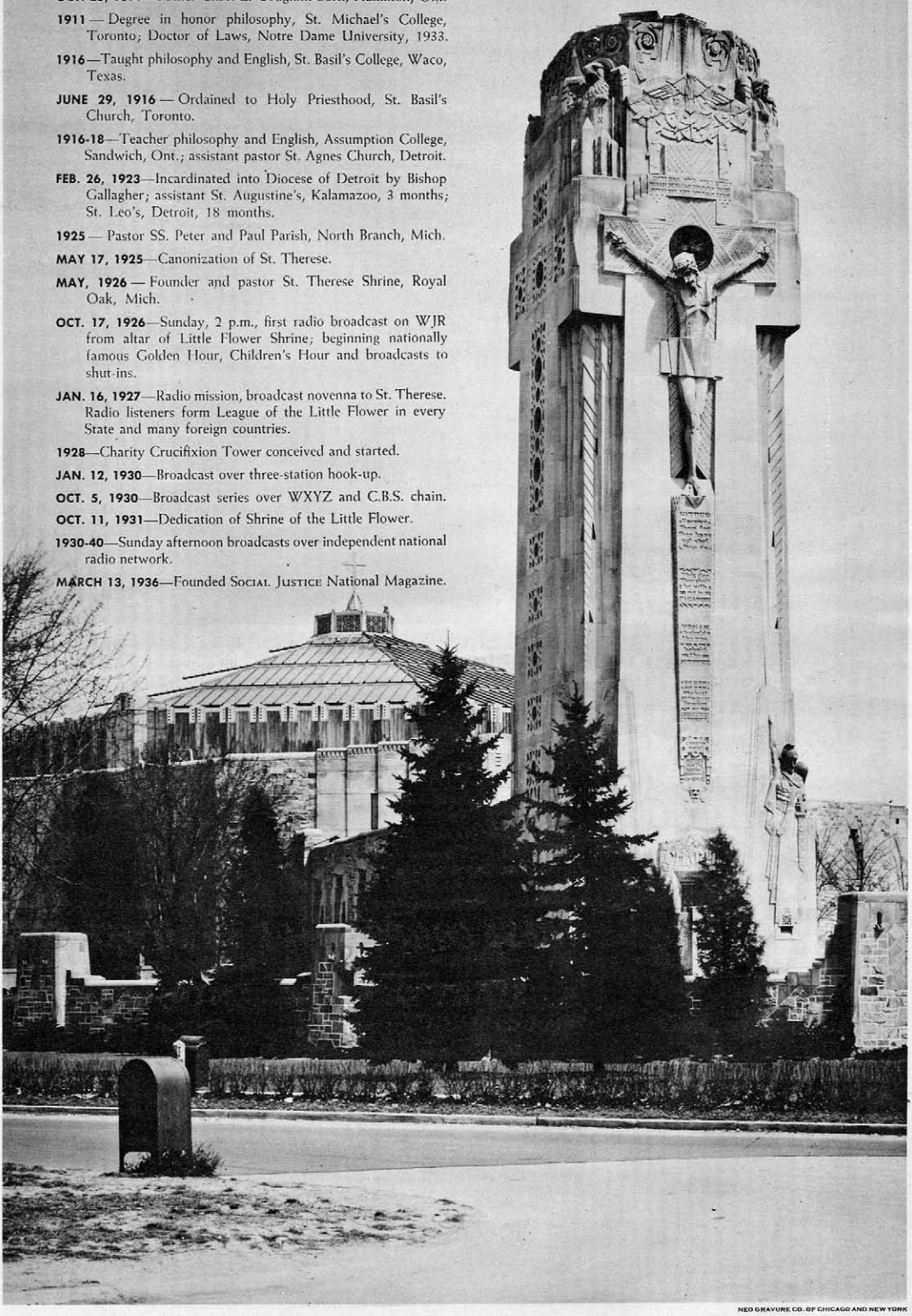
JAN. 12, 1930—Broadcast over three-station hook-up.

OCT. 5, 1930—Broadcast series over WXYZ and C.B.S. chain.

OCT. 11, 1931—Dedication of Shrine of the Little Flower.

1930-40—Sunday afternoon broadcasts over independent national radio network.

MARCH 13, 1936—Founded Social Justice National Magazine.



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